

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:JPLORENZ/CB

APPROVED BY IO:SWLEWIS

S/S:SSTEINER

NEA:AATHERTON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 292217 TOSEC 310350

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, XF, IS

SUBJECT: BRIEFING MEMORANDUM: ISRAELI APPROACH ON UNGA
RESOLUTION ON QUNEITRA

REF: TOSEC 310279 (STATE 291571)

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FOR THE SECRETARY FROM IO-LEWIS AND NEA-ATHERTON

1. THE ISRAELI EMBASSY HAS, AT COUNSELOR LEVEL,
TODAY ASKED US TO VOTE AGAINST THE UNGA RESOLUTION
(REFTEL) WHICH CONDEMNS ISRAEL FOR THE DESTRUCTION
OF QUNEITRA AND RECOGNIZES SYRIA'S RIGHT TO
COMPENSATION. T;E COUNSELOR NOTED THAT ISRAEL
BELIEVES CLAIMS FOR COMPENSATION CAN ONLY BE NEGOTIATED
AS PART OF A BROADER SETTLEMENT.

2. THIS APPROACH DOES NOT ALTER OUR RECOMMENDATION, WHICH
YOU HAVE APPROVED, THAT THE U.S. ABSTAIN ON THE RESOLUTION,
WITH AN EXPLANATION OF VOTE TO THE EFFECT THAT THE QUESTION
OF COMPENSATION CANNOT BE APPROPRIATELY ADDRESSED

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OUTSIDE THE CONTEXT OF AN OVERALL PEACE SETTLEMNT.

WE ARE REPORTING THIS APPROACH SINCE OUR ACTION
MEMORANDUM STATED THAT THE ISRAELIS HAD NOT ASKED

US TO OPPOSE EITHER THE QUNEITRA OR SETTLEMENTS
RESOLUTION.

3. A SLIGHTLY AMENDED TEXT OF THE QUNEITRA
RESOLUTION IS AT ATTACHMENT 1.

ATTACHMENT:

1. DRAFT RESOLUTION.

DRAFTED BY:IO/UNP:JPLORENZ; CLEARED BY IO:SWLEWIS;
NEA:AATHERTON

FOLLOWING IS ATTACHMENT 1 - DRAFT RESOLUTION ON QUNEITRA.

BEGIN TEXT:

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING ITS RESOLUTIONS 3240 C (XXX) OF 29 NOVEMBER
1974 AND 3525 C (XXX) OF 15 DECEMBER 1975,

HAVING CONSIDERED THE REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
TO INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES AFFECTING THE HUMAN
RIGHTS OF THE POPULATION OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES,
IN PARTICULAR SECTION V THEREOF, ENTITLED "QUNEITRA",
AND ANNEX III THERETO, BEING A REPORT SUBMITTED BY A
SWISS EXPERT ENGAGED BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE AND
ENTITLED "QUNEITRA, REPORT ON NATURE, EXTENT AND
VALUE OF DAMAGE",

TAKING NOTE OF THE FINDINGS OF THE EXPERT ENGAGED BY
THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE, TO THE EFFECT THAT, THE CITY
OF QUNEITRA HAS BEEN ALMOST TOTALLY DESTROYED BY
"DELIBERATE ACTION" OF THE ISRAELI FORCES OF
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OCCUPATION BEFORE ISRAEL'S WITHDRAWAL FROM THE CITY
IN 1974,

1. EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION OF THE THOROUGHNESS
AND IMPARTIALITY WITH WHICH THE EXPERT ENGAGED BY
THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE DISCHARGED THE TASKS ENTRUSTED
TO HIM;

2. CONDEMNS THE MASSIVE, DELIBERATE DESTRUCTION OF QUNEITRA PERPETRATED DURING ISRAELI OCCUPATION AND PRIOR TO THE WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI FORCES FROM THAT CITY IN 1974,

3. RECOGNIZES THAT THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC IS ENTITLED TO FULL AND ADEQUATE COMPENSATION, UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW AND IN EQUITY, FOR THE MASSIVE DAMAGES AND DELIBERATE DESTRUCTION PERPETRATED IN QUNEITRA WHILE IT WAS UNDER ISRAELI OCCUPATION, AND TO ALL OTHER LEGAL REMEDIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPLICABLE INTERNATIONAL LAW AND PRACTICE;

4. TAKES NOTE OF THE STATEMENTS MADE BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC BEFORE THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE, TO THE EFFECT THAT HIS GOVERNMENT RESERVES ALL RIGHTS TO FULL COMPENSATION IN REGARD TO ALL DAMAGES RESULTING FROM THE ISRAELI DELIBERATE DESTRUCTION OF QUNEITRA, INCLUDING THOSE NOT COVERED BY THE EXPERTS' ABOVE-MENTIONED REPORT OR NOT FALLING WITHIN THE SCOPE OF HIS ASSIGNMENT;

5. REQUESTS THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO COMPLETE ITS SURVEY ON ALL THE ASPECTS REFERRED TO IN THE PREVIOUS PARAGRAPH AND TO REPORT THEREON TO THE XXXII SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY;

6. REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO PROVIDE THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE WITH ALL THE FACILITIES REQUIRED FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE TASKS REFERRED TO IN THE PREVIOUS PARAGRAPHS.

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END TEXT.

ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

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